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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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**Letter dated 16 June 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

I have the honour to write to you in order to inform you that on 13 May 2020, the United States Department of State disclosed on its official website that it had notified the Congress of the United States that Cuba and four other countries were certified as “not cooperating fully” with the counter-terrorism efforts of the United States in 2019.

The Cuban authorities expressed their strongest rejection of this slanderous classification. This is a unilateral and arbitrary list, without any basis, authority or international endorsement whatsoever and which, as is known, serves only the purposes of defamation and coercion against countries that refuse to abide by the will of the Government of the United States in their sovereign decisions.

There is concrete evidence, some of it very recent, of our bilateral cooperation with the United States in the fight against terrorism and in joint law enforcement efforts, in actions of particular interest to that country, which makes the categorization announced by the State Department a public and deliberate act of distorting the truth.

It should be recalled that Cuba is a country that has been a victim of numerous terrorist acts organized, financed and carried out from United States soil, by groups and individuals who have enjoyed government tolerance and protection there, a reality that is well-known to the public. Cuba was also a victim, in the past, of State terrorism directly perpetrated by the Government of the United States, which sometimes acted in conspiracy with that country's organized crime. Due to actions of this kind, 3,478 Cubans have died and 2,099 experience or have experience some kind of disability.

On 30 April 2020, our embassy in the United States was the target of a terrorist attack. The Government of the United States decided not to make a public statement and not to condemn the aggression. It still refuses to admit the unquestionable link between its permanent incitements to aggression and violence against Cuba and the actions of an individual who, armed with an assault rifle, fired 32 rounds of ammunition at a diplomatic mission located in the centre of that country's capital with the intent to kill.



As a result, after the terrorist attack on our diplomatic mission in Washington, there have been threats against the integrity of Cuban diplomats and embassies in the United States itself, as well as in Mexico, Costa Rica, Antigua and Barbuda, Canada, Cyprus, Austria, Angola, Iran and at the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris, all of which have been reported to the respective Governments.

The stance of evident complicity of the Government of the United States entails the danger of being assumed as an endorsement of terrorism. It is consistent with the intensification of the policy of aggression and incitement to violence against Cuba, launched even in countries where Cuban health personnel work under bilateral cooperation programs. Cuba's commitment to the fight against terrorism is enshrined in the constitution; it is absolute and categorical against any of its forms and manifestations, in particular State terrorism, and is backed by the appropriate legislation.

Cuba has never been involved in the organization, financing or execution of terrorist acts against any country. The Government of Cuba has never supported nor will it ever support acts of international terrorism. Cuba's territory has never been used nor will it ever be used to organize, finance or carry out terrorist acts against any country, including the United States.

There is every reason to question whether the Government of the United States is able to make such a categorical statement about its position on terrorism.

Cuba is a State party to 18 of the 19 international conventions relating to terrorism and is in the final phase of depositing the instruments of ratification for the remaining one, pursuant to which it has implemented legal and institutional measures aimed at effectively combating this scourge. Cuba, at the same time, strictly complies with its obligations under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations, in particular resolutions [1373 \(2001\)](#) and [1540 \(2004\)](#), on which it has submitted its compliance reports.

As a country that has been a victim of terrorism, Cuba deplores any expression of political manipulation and opportunism in dealing with such a sensitive issue. The inclusion of Cuba in the aforementioned list of the State Department is nothing more than a baseless pretext that seeks to justify the application of additional coercive economic measures against our country, in particular with an extraterritorial impact, on third countries.

In this regard, I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 109, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ana Silvia **Rodríguez Abascal**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.